

from the lateral edges **442**, **444** of the mobile station **400**. In other embodiments, a single depressible portion **428** may be provided. In another embodiment, as referenced above, first and second opening members may be provided each extending adjacent the lateral edge of the mobile station (not shown). In such embodiments, each opening member includes a depressible portion extending laterally outwardly from the lateral edges of the outer surface of the mobile station.

In various embodiments of the present invention, an angle θ is defined between the one or more outwardly extending depressible portions **428**, **428'** and the lateral edges **442**, **444** of the mobile station **400** as shown in FIG. 6A. In one embodiment, angle θ is preferably between 0 degrees and 270 degrees, more preferably between 30 and 150 degrees, and still more preferably between 60 and 120 degrees. As will be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art, for initial depressible portion angles θ that are less than 90 degrees, a user opens the mobile station **400** by pressing the one or more depressible portions **428**, **428'** inwardly toward smaller angles (i.e., toward angles θ which are less than 90 degrees). For initial depressible angles θ that are greater than 90 degrees, a user opens the mobile station **400** by pressing the one or more depressible portions inwardly to achieve larger angles (i.e., toward angles θ which are greater than 90 degrees). Regardless of the angular configuration of the one or more depressible portions **428**, **428'** a user advantageously opens the mobile station **400** simply by pinching the depressible portions **428**, **428'** between the user's thumb and forefinger.

Many modifications and other embodiments of the inventions set forth herein will come to mind to one of ordinary skill in the art to which these inventions pertain having the benefit of the teachings presented in the foregoing descriptions and the associated drawings. Therefore, it is to be understood that the inventions are not to be limited to the specific embodiments disclosed and that modifications and other embodiments are intended to be included within the scope of the appended claims. Although specific terms are employed herein, they are used in a generic and descriptive sense only and not for purposes of limitation.

That which is claimed:

1. A mechanism for opening a mobile station, comprising: an opening member extending axially from a first portion of said mobile station to a second portion of said mobile station, wherein said first and second portions are foldably coupled together by a hinge region, said opening member defining a laterally extending depressible portion configured to be responsive to an actuation force applied laterally, inwardly, and wherein said actuation force at least partially drives said mobile station to at least partially open from a folded position.
2. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein: said opening member extends adjacent a lateral edge of said mobile station.
3. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein said opening member comprises:
 - a first opening member extending adjacent a first lateral edge of said mobile station, said first opening member defining a first laterally extending depressible portion adjacent said hinge region; and
 - a second opening member configured to extend adjacent a second lateral edge of said mobile station, said second opening member defining a second laterally extending depressible portion adjacent said hinge region, wherein said first and second laterally extending depressible portions are configured to be responsive to first and second actuation forces applied laterally, inwardly, and wherein

said first and second actuation forces at least partially drive said mobile station to at least partially open from a folded position.

4. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein: said mobile station defines opposed inner and outer surfaces, said inner surface defines a narrowed region proximate to said hinge region, and said opening member extends along said narrowed region of said inner surface to define said depressible portion.
5. The mechanism of claim 4, wherein: said depressible portion includes an angularly extending pressing surface extending outwardly from said inner surface.
6. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein: said mobile station defines opposed inner and outer surfaces, said inner surface defines a narrowed region proximate to said hinge region, and said depressible portion of said opening member extends angularly outwardly from said narrowed region of said inner surface to define a pressing surface.
7. The mechanism of claim 6, wherein: said pressing surface of said depressible portion of said opening member extends angularly outwardly from said narrowed region of said inner surface at an angle between 1 and 45 degrees.
8. The mechanism of claim 6, wherein: said pressing surface of said depressible portion of said opening member extends angularly outwardly from said narrowed region of said inner surface at an angle between 1 and 20 degrees.
9. The mechanism of claim 6, wherein: said pressing surface of said depressible portion of said opening member extends angularly outwardly from said narrowed region of said inner surface at an angle between 1 and 10 degrees.
10. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein: said mobile station defines opposed inner and outer surfaces and said depressible portion of said opening member extends angularly outwardly from said outer surface to define a pressing surface.
11. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein: said opening member is at least partially comprised of rubber.
12. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein: said opening member is at least partially comprised of fabric.
13. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein: said opening member is at least partially comprised of an elastomer.
14. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein: said opening member is at least partially comprised of metal.
15. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein: said mobile station defines opposed inner and outer surfaces, wherein at least a portion of said depressible portion of said opening member extends laterally outwardly beyond said outer surface of said mobile station.
16. The mechanism of claim 1, wherein: said opening member is attached to said first and second portions of said foldable mobile station.
17. A mobile station, comprising:
 - a first portion;
 - a second portion foldably coupled to said first portion adjacent a hinge region; and
 - opposed first and second opening members extending axially from said first portion to said second portion, said first and second opening members defining laterally